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C/O

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19, *Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN*
and all SVNR Embassies, Information Offices in foreign countries.

EVERY US IMPERIALISTS' OFFENCE AGAINST THE NORTH WILL MEET WITH OUR REELING RIPOSTE

(Interview to GPA granted by Chairman NGUYEN HUU THO)

Question: *On November 21 and 22, hundreds of US planes flew bombing and strafing raids on many populated areas in the northern part of our country. In order to cover up their crimes, they advanced such specious justifications as "protective reaction," "protection of the lives of GIs," "rescue of captured US pilots," etc. Will you comment on the true nature of those acts of war?*

Answer: Such savage air strikes were extremely serious acts of war, gross violations of the sovereignty and security of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a severe threat to the Paris Conference on Viet Nam and an act of sabotage of the efforts towards a solution for the South Viet Nam problem.

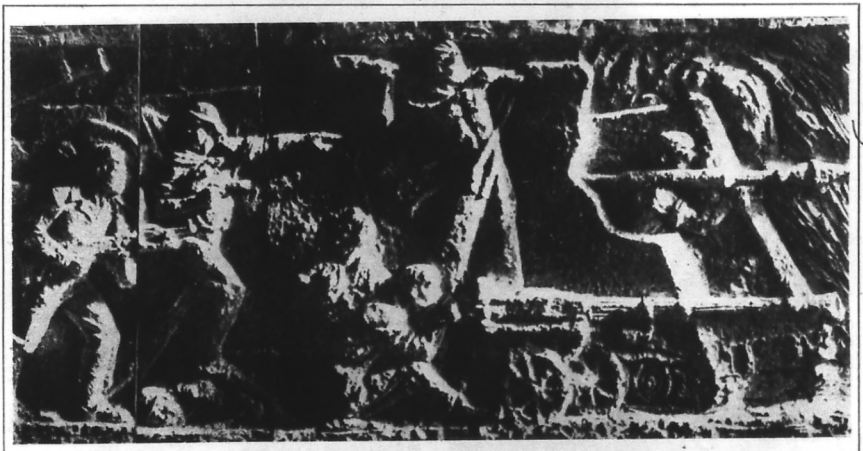
To ward off criticism of these monstrous and evident crimes from the world peoples and progressive opinion in the United States, in the last few days, the Nixon administration has given many specious explanations. They asserted that "North Viet Nam had broken an understanding with the United States," that they were carrying out "protective reaction" "to protect the lives of GIs." The Saigon agents of the US — the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique — have been dancing to the tune of their masters. The US Defence Secretary made no bones that he would again order similar air raids on North Viet Nam if the US reconnaissance planes were shot at, and that he would continue to make every effort to rescue captured US air pirates. So by M. Laird's own admission, these piratical acts were part of a new war scheme of the Nixon administration against the northern part of our country, a new war tactics applied to a situation in which the US had been forced to end completely and unconditionally its bombardments against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

These acts of war as well as aggressive operations undertaken in Cambodia and the intensification of war in Laos by the US were coordinated actions with the utterly barbarous "pacification" operations they have been carrying out in South Viet Nam to make good the bankruptcy of their "Vietnamization" program. Such deeds have bared the US obstinacy and bellicosity. They have further exposed the so-called "five-point peace initiative" of Nixon as a trick to cover up his design of prolonging and expanding the war. Moreover, they have revealed US stubborn hostility to the ten-point overall solution of the NFL and the PGR of the RSVN. It has now become clear that Nixon is loudly talking peace, while in fact he is seeking a military victory.

Question: *Will you, Mr Chairman, tell us what attitude the South Viet Nam people and armed forces will take toward the present US vicious intention?*

Answer: They greatly rejoiced at the exploits of our heroic North Viet Nam people and armed forces

(Continued on page 4)



LONG LIVE THE SPIRIT OF THE 1968 TET GENERAL OFFENSIVE!

US CHEMICAL WARFARE – A MENACE TO ALL MANKIND

IN spite of Nixon's promises and repeated professions of "peace," what is certain is that hundreds of thousands of GI's are still in South Viet Nam waging an all-out war: Massive B-52 raids, large-scale sweeps, "accelerated" and "special pacification," concentration camps, massacres, etc. And even chemical poisons have been resorted to this unavowed warfare which, because of its effects and atrocities, has been shocking the whole world.

HERBICIDES THAT DO HARM TO MEN

Chemical warfare started in South Viet Nam in 1961, but the world became aware of it very late, though the alarm at its true nature had been sounded by the South Viet Nam NFL and DRVN Government right at the beginning. That situation had been made possible by a perfidious propaganda campaign of the US imperialists who claimed that those chemical products they had been dumping on South Viet Nam were harmless, as their name "defoliants" tried to make oelieve.

"Aren't 'defoliants' widely used in agriculture, everywhere and even in the United States? They are not so terrible as all that!" they said and people were mislead on the true objective of their being used in the Viet Nam war.

The US rulers thus succeeded in lulling the vigilance of a segment of the American and world peoples whose reaction was understandably far below the magnitude of the crime. But this explains all the the more clearly the wrath now aroused throughout the world and the unanimous, strong condemnation of the White House's acts of genocide, and even of biocide in Viet Nam. The Executive Committee of the World Federation of Scientific Workers, in its September session in Belgrade, issued an appeal to scientists all over the world to call a meeting and discuss chemical warfare in Viet Nam, as this form of warfare has been prohibited by international law, more particularly by the 1925 Geneva Protocol and as it is at present killing every day a great number of civilians among whom old-agers, women and children.

"It is high time," the appeal said, "scientists all over the world should assume the responsibility to study this problem" because "defoliants" and "herbicides" used in Viet Nam have produced effects of utterly disastrous for an entire people, which should not "leave indifferent any honest man" in any continent.

According to preliminary data, from 1961 to 1969 "defoliants" were sprayed on 1,086,000 hectares of forests and cultivated land, and in the first nine months of 1970, they were rained on 25 provinces in South Viet Nam, damaging 415,000 ha of cultivated land.

Large stretches of jungle were literally devastated. Reports from South Viet Nam and eye-witnesses have spoken of whole expanses of virgin forest denuded over several kilometres of their trees – some of them belonging to rare species – and where at night one no longer hears the familiar cries of animals which used to people them for millenaries.

But forests with their vegetation

A deformed child of a mother, victim of toxic chemical products.

★

Banana-trees burned by US "defoliants"

and animals are not the only targets of "defoliants." These destroy food crops as well. According to a summary investigation conducted by the Medical service of the South Viet Nam PRG, rice, maize, sweet potato, cassava, all staple foods of the Vietnamese people, are ruined by "defoliants." Fruit-trees such as banana, cocoanut, papaw, jack – to mention only a few main ones – either are killed or no longer bear fruit. Cattle and poultry have disappeared. American Prof. Pfeiffer, back from a visit to South Viet Nam in 1969, declared that many species of rare animals and birds no longer existed in this country as a result of toxic chemical sprayings.

In destroying basic food crops, cattle and poultry, the US imperialists in fact aim at exterminating the Vietnamese people. That is the conclusion arrived at by any impartial observer who follows US deeds in Viet Nam. The aggressors stake on famine to subdue a whole nation. What they cannot obtain through brutal force or crafty manoeuvres, they try to get through famine which kills indiscriminately women, children, old-agers, and combatants.

But "herbicides" operate not only indirectly, through famine. They also harm directly by intoxicating the inhabitants of exposed areas. Preliminary statistics of the South Viet Nam PRG show that 1,293,000 people were poisoned by these products between 1961 and 1969 and that in the first nine months of 1970, the number was 185,000 among whom 300 died from exposure.

THALIDOMIDE BABIES

Some time ago, the world press devoted entire pages to the Thalidomide affair which is far from being forgotten by many, since its victims – deformed children – are still living in many European countries; women from Belgium and the Federal Republic of Germany gave birth to monsters for having taken a sedative called Thalidomide. At present, "defoliants" and "herbicides" dumped on South Viet Nam for 10-odd years are likely to trigger off a new Thalidomide affair with effects infinitely more disastrous, given the enormous quantity of toxical products showered on very large areas (see figures quoted above) and any pregnant woman in South Viet Nam may absorb daily, under the form of drink, a certain volume of teratogenous products.

Last year, a South Viet Nam daily, *Tin Sang* (Morning News), reported an unusual rash of deformed babies born in a Saigon hospital. That daily was seized and the Saigon administration, under US instigation, did everything to hush up the news, and since then it has no longer been mentioned in the papers. Western correspondents have, however, referred from time to time to the birth of monsters whose number has inordinately been grewing, especially in areas most exposed to toxic chemical sprayings. Thus in the September 29, 1970 issue of *Daily Mirror*, John Pilger wrote about a baby he had observed in a South Vietnamese village: "The child has neither arm nor leg," and he quoted the Vietnamese physician on duty in this region as saying: "You'll see that a big number of similar children will be born in South Viet Nam." According to the physician, the baby's mother had taken foods or drinks infected by toxic products dropped by the US imperialists on that area.

Right in the United States, scientists upset by the news started a few years ago making experiments on a herbicide which was massively used in South Viet Nam, the 2, 4, 5-T. The experiments were quite conclusive: pregnant rats and mice to whom such products had been given gave birth to monsters. The relation from cause to effect was thus demonstrated.

A THREAT THAT SHOULD BE REMOVED NOW!

IT would be premature to assess all the damage caused by "defoliants" which are profusely dispensed for 10 years now by US troops in South Viet Nam. The terms "genocide" and even "biocide" have been applied to this form of atrocious and illegal warfare which has bowled over human conscience.

Thus, while in many industrialized countries public opinion anxious about polluted air has been urging the administrations concerned to take even more efficient measures of protection, and while in the United States the Senate has voted huge credits to check such a calamity, toxic products have been used by Americans for years now on South Viet Nam purposely to sow death and devastation-products that destroy forests, fauna and flora, sterilize the soil, often kill men, in most cases old-agers, women and children, and threaten the very intra-uterine existence of man with their teratogenous effects...

We have not spoken of toxic gases. These "tear" gases – again a euphemism for CS, CS-1 and CS-2 – used in highly concentrated doses in shells of all calibres and in grenades, are simply lethal for those civilians who take refuge in shelters.

As can be seen, it is still not possible to sum up the damage caused to the Vietnamese people by US chemical warfare in defiance of international law and all humanitarian principles. But since it hurts human conscience and produces effects known to the public at large, it has been strongly opposed. In the United States itself, scientists, congressmen, etc... have come out vigorously against their government's criminal use of toxic chemicals in South Viet Nam. An International Conference of Scientists has been scheduled for December to consider US chemical warfare in South Viet Nam. It is high time that progressive and peace-loving forces the world over became aware of the danger generated by the US imperialists against the Vietnamese people and took appropriate measures to put an end to this atrocity which is also a menace to all mankind. The US war criminals have indeed transformed Viet Nam into a testing ground for chemical warfare. If they could get away unpunished they would be ready, in due time, to wreak the same fate on other peoples.

HO MAI BAC

US Raids in North Viet Nam condemned

A statement condemning the resumed US attacks against North Viet Nam was issued on November 22 by Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh, leader of the movement "For the Vietnamese Women's Right to Live" and President member of the "People's Front to Fight for Peace." "We consider these raids a threat to peace and a cause of added tension," the statement read.

The same day, the Saigon Buddhists (An Quang sect) also made public a declaration saying that "these attacks show that the Nixon government wants to prolong the war and that Nixon's five - point peace proposal is but a fraud."

The same day, the "People's Front to Fight for Peace" and the "Women's Movement" of Can Tho held a large meeting attended by prominent personalities such as Doctor Le Van Hoach (former Prime Minister in 1947), Dang Van Ky (former Vice - President of the Peace Movement in 1955). The latter expounded the 10-point peace plan of the "People's Front to Fight for Peace," condemned US presence in South Viet Nam, and demanded that US and allied troops be withdrawn from South Viet Nam, "a necessary condition to end the war and bring about peace."

On November 25, representatives of Saigon, Can Tho and Van Hanh Colleges put out a circular denouncing Nixon's scheme "to step up military activities and resume the bombing of North Viet Nam" as a move to obstruct the Paris Conference, consolidate the Saigon regime, repress all opponent patriotic elements and prolong the war of aggression to serve the interests of the US militarists and capitalists. The circular appealed to "all students and pupils in South Viet Nam towns, on religious and political movements and world opinion to raise their voices against the Nixon administration's design to extend the war in Viet Nam."

The same day, Lawyer Tran Ngoc Lieng came out against the recent US bombing of North Viet Nam. "Most of the peace-loving Vietnamese people feel strongly against these strikes," his statement read. "These acts of war proved that Nixon's five-point peace program is but a manœuvre and not a sincere effort to end the war."

On November 26, a demonstration including women's representatives and men in Saigon marched to the US Embassy to hand in a letter protesting against Nixon's resumption of the bombing in North Viet Nam. The letter of the "People's Movement to Fight for Peace" wrote: "The People's Front to Fight for Peace condemns the US dragging out of the dirty war in Viet Nam. We demand that the US authorities halt such acts and withdraw from South Viet Nam in order to let the Vietnamese people decide themselves on the way to end the war and the restoration of peace." The letter of the Saigon Movement "For the Women's Right to Live" wrote: "We don't think that the US bombing of North Viet Nam was aimed at rescuing the prisoners for should President Nixon want to settle the prisoners' issue all he has to do is put an end to the war. Our movement cannot stay idle when our fellow-countrymen are being massacred."

An Exhibition

On the closing days of October, though it began to be a little cold in the city, the students and pupils in Saigon were all in a bustle with the opening of the "exhibition of students' and pupils' activities" week.

I call this small display of the youth a new action, first because it was staged after an ordeal of policemen's tear grenades, bludgeons and bayonets. Secondly, it was not an exhibition of "Vietnamese agriculture, industry and commerce" in which the President of the "Republic of Viet Nam" was seen sitting on a Japanese-made tractor and uttering praises which were reciprocated by the proud words of an agent of the Japanese monopoly: All these things are ours." Nor was it a show of photographs of nudes run by the Cultural Ministry in the information hall at the corner of "Tu Do" street to attract such customers as the sex- and blood-thirsty GIs. Nor was it a display of booty with arms and ammunition artificially arranged for propaganda photos (about the phoney victories) frequently put up by the Defence Ministry of the Thieu-Ky government. In this small exhibition, there were no statues of American and allied soldiers with up-to-date lethal weapons as a tribute to the "mother country," but pictures of GIs, South Korean, Australian, New-Zealandese and nationalist Chinese soldiers among tanks, cannons, aircraft and gunpowder smoke seen in their true light: the human blood-thirsty beasts.

Like other visitors, I lingered a long time in a corner of the exhibition room. There I saw all the ugliness of the war of aggression waged by the Americans: groups of people towed behind an armoured car, skulls held by blood-stained hands, children seared by napalm; corpses littering ricefields after a military operation; thirteen-year-old country girls marched off by grinning and leering GIs; mothers on their knees pleading in front of murder-drunk soldiers; frightened children clinging to one another in front of a dark gun muzzle ready to vomit fire; the bony arms and faces of prisoners detained in "tiger cages" etc...

The exhibits did not give the whole picture which is familiar to the Vietnamese people, who have witnessed or suffered so many killings, yet these images still aroused in them a deep emotion mixed with indignation. When seeing them, the visitors wonder whether the victims are made of iron and the murderers are wild beasts or human beings! All of them feel a deadly hatred for the enemy. In fact, during the past fifteen years of an atrocious war unleashed by the American aggressors, who has not had at least one near and dear to mourn for?

The exhibition room was small, yet, from one of its corners one could see all the horrible magnitude of the calamity.

The American war-mongers and Saigon traitors have glossed it with such niceties as: defence of peace and freedom, democratization, social transformation but its true colours which are ugliness itself were bared here in this small exhibition room.

Looking out into the street from a corner of the room, I suddenly remembered the facetiousness and bitterness of the following verses by a young friend, Tran Dai:

I am going to build a latrine
When a man dying of hunger
Holds out his hand begging for
Some grains of maize
For his lanky legs to stand up
I am going to build a maternity-home
But no expectant mother comes
The man is soldiering far away,
Leaving his garden waste
At home, the wife
Longs one day for the breath
So warm of her husband
Instead of stinking blood
And rusty bomb splinters.
I am going to build a school
But children do not turn up.
They are in the streets
Stretching out their hands
For cigarettes,
Saying in English: O Kay!
These poor mudlarks
Who learn in the streets
Need not go to school!

From this corner of the exhibition room, I looked out towards the villages destroyed by bombs, shells and toxic chemicals.

The red tiled roof of Truong Long is turning violet,
The gate is wobbling to the point of tumbling,
No more newly-clad children, no more merry songs.
The bamboo trees bend their heads, the reeds are hit by shells.
The sky is dull, the cricket's chirping is desolate
Surrounded by fire, the trees show their bare branches.
Graves and graves in rows.

This was what my village looked like. I saw the angry expression of an old mother before the blood-shot eyes of American monsters, the timorous faces of the little ones under dark gun muzzles.

I saw those faces from a corner of the exhibition room.

But what gave me much food for thought was those who were exposing the dirty war of aggression of the Americans. Their show has given the lie to the sweet-tongued paywar deceivers who humour the youth to live up to their position as "youths in war time," nourish the "dream" of "scouring the seas," enjoy the sexy "night jasmine" program broadcast by the army station, wear the alfa yellow uniforms issued by military training centres, brandish the sword and appreciate the yellow apricot blossoms*. All this is but to exploit the patriotism of the youth in order to drive them into barracks, to turn them into wild beasts and robots and also into cannon-fodder to defend the stronghold of the aggressors and traitors to the country. That is why parallel with this gimmick it was necessary for the authorities to decree the mobilization law and launch the "campaign for the people" and beat up recruits for the army.

The youth have clearly seen the true nature of this war, which is not the one as commonly seen, but a war in which there are aggressors and victims of aggression, justice and injustice.

The youth have seen the atrocity of the US war of aggression; they have witnessed the agonies of their motherland, not to turn their faces away and take a "wait and see" attitude, nor to entreat: "Please don't explode, bombs and shells!" They understand that to prevent bombs and shells from exploding, they must silence the enemy's guns and shoot at "Thunderchiefs" and "Phantoms," at those who rain bombs and shells all over our land. Our youth have made their choice: that of our nation. They have chosen their path: that of continuing the tradition of indomitable spirit handed down by Le Loi, Quang Trung. Our youth have stood up; they have held aloft posters and shouted war cries; they have swept away barbed wire entanglements. Now they are giving coloured pictures a soul, and turning brushes into weapons, poems and songs into storms and this exhibition into a battlefield. I left the exhibition room still haunted by these two verses:

Give me these mountains and rivers
Give me the sword sharpened for millenaries!

Young friends, the sacred sword is in your hands. Respond to the call of the Fatherland!

November 1970

H.T.

* *Showing officers' ranks in the Saigon army.*

Saigon police arrest one of the students' leaders after grievously wounding him.

EXPOSE NGUYEN VAN THIEU

Editor's Note: *Under the headline " The coming days of President Thieu " the ' Saigon* **Tia Sang** *of October 17 wrote :*

" THE first and most important thing that President Thieu has been doing is to secure at all costs the US government support for the line of the Republic of Viet Nam as well as for himself. He must do it for without US assistance the 'Republic of Viet Nam' like himself cannot stand. That is why he resolutely sets his face against the unconditional withdrawal of US troops.

... It is safe to say that as long as President Thieu remains in office or if he is re-elected, the Republic of Viet Nam will continue to toe the US line.

A most important thing for President Thieu is that he is grappling with the economic crisis by putting forward many solutions : tax-rise, wage hike or devaluation. All this, however, is to no avail, and he is facing mounting opposition from all strata of people who lead too hard a life, while his political opponents sternly criticize and flatly reject his policy."

" President Thieu is more and more isolated, " the paper concluded :

" His estrangement compels him to rely on the White House. "

SAIGON INDOMITABLE

SERIES OF NEWSPAPERS SEIZED, FINED AND INDICTED

● On Nov. 20 the Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration seized seven newspapers: *Dan, Dan Y, Tin Sang, Chinh Luan, Hoa Binh, Doi Quyen Song* and *Lap Truong*.

● On Nov. 26, nine others were seized or penalized by law courts. Among these, the dailies *Tin Sang, Dai Dan Toc* and the weekly *Muoi Saigon* were fined respectively 10,000, 20,000 and 60,000 Saigon piasters. In addition to a 10,000-piaster fine, *Tin Mat* had one of the members of its editorial board sentenced to two months' imprisonment with stay execution.

● On Nov. 24, it was the turn of *Le Journal d'Extrême-Orient* to be seized.

● On Nov. 30, the same measure hit *Tin Sang, Dien Tin* and *Thach Do*.

As disclosed by a Saigon MP, while the people of Quang Dien, Phong Dien and Huong Dien districts, Thua Thien province had lost all their property and were in dire needs as a result of the recent floods, men of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta joined hands with businessmen in stealing relief goods for the said areas.

According to the same source, local puppet authorities drew up false victims' lists to embezzle relief fund and as a result, flood-stricken people received nothing. With the help of tradesmen they also stole rice and sold it in the black market, hence rice price shot up from 3,500 to 6,000 piasters per 100 kg, which further worsened the lot of flood victims.

TOWNSFOLK PROTEST AGAINST US-PUPPETS

● A teach-in was held by the Federation of Buddhist and Female Public and Private Employees, claiming better living standards and respect for women's dignity.

The delegates unanimously denounced the tax income decreed by the Saigon administration, which " put in dire straits our fellow-countrymen of all walks of life, especially public and private employees and armymen who live on fixed wages. " They adopted a 7-point petition to Thieu-Ky-Khiem, demanding :

— improved living conditions for female public and private employees

— equal pay for male and female workers

— two-month maternity leave

— immediate abolition of the tax income imposed on public and private employees

— strict observance of the law to ensure respect for women's dignity

— full status for public employees hired on a daily basis after two-year service.

● On Nov. 16, 800 workers of the ESSO Petroleum Company walked out in protest against their employers. Just two weeks earlier, 300 office employees stopped work for an hour because the company suspended a supplementary pay already agreed upon as a result of the spiralling cost of living.

STUDENTS' DISSENT UNABATED

● On Nov. 16, the General Association of Saigon Students and the Pupils' and Students' Joint Action Committee put out a declaration denouncing the illegal arrest of Pham Van Xinh, Chairman of the Can Tho Students' Association. It asserted that this arbitrary measure was part and parcel of the Saigon administration's terroristic reprisals against students.

● In an interview with the press on Nov. 16, the Flood Relief Committee of the General Association of Saigon Students denounced the perfunctory, irresponsible attitude of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem junta in dealing with the situation generated by the recent calamities in several South Viet Nam provinces. The Committee charged that by all ways and means in their power the authorities were preventing the students from coming to the rescue of the flood-stricken people. Pham Hao Quang, Chairman of the Science Students Executive Committee urged " immediate suspension of military training in educational establishments and use of all the student manpower for flood relief work. " " If need be, Pham Hao Quang added, the students would stop learning for a month to give timely help to the stricken people. "

● Meeting the press on Nov. 24, Nguyen Van Thang, former Chairman of the General Association of Saigon Students strongly protested against the Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration's deliberate intention to victimize dissenting students and to illegally arrest Pham Hao Quang, Chairman of the Science Students' Executive Committee, and to impress him. Nguyen Van Thang pointed out that Pham Hao Quang was one of the nine demobbed students, that he had just been released from an army camp, that he had been arrested time and again, and that he had been the worse treated of all by the police.

" Tens of thousands of science students stand ready for action, " Thang went on, " to take, together with all students in South Viet Nam, more vigorous actions against Thieu-Ky-Khiem's retaliatory policy. "

WAR INVALIDS' DRIVE CONTINUES

● On Nov. 25 more than 600 soldiers of the puppet army shaved their heads and paraded through Can Tho city's streets. They urged that the Saigon administration immediately stop pulling down their dwellings and set free the invalids' leaders who had been arrested in previous demonstrations. Starting from November, over 10,000 men of all arms have joined in this non-violent form of protest.

Saigon students and war invalids face to face with the Thieu-Ky police's repression.

EVERY US IMPERIALISTS' OFFENCE AGAINST THE NORTH...

(Continued from page 1)

who always remain vigilant, fight courageously and meet the US pirates' evil doings with due force.

They felt highly indignant at the US imperialists' offences against the North, the big rear of the whole country. They sternly condemn them. We emphatically warn that every similar deed will meet with a reeling riposte from us.

Let the US President give up all hopes to reverse the losing position of the US aggressive forces by undertaking military ventures. The US imperialists have committed over half a million GIs and troops of their satellites to a limited war in South Viet Nam, launched a very ferocious war of destruction against North Viet Nam, but they have met with repeated dismal failures. At present in their ever-declining position and their complete political isolation, no matter how reckless they are, they cannot escape heavier setbacks.

The South Viet Nam people have lived through 25 years of war ; they earnestly desire peace, but it should be a genuine peace in independence and freedom. The logical and reasonable way to restore peace is provided for by the ten-point overall solution of the NFL and the September 17 eight-point statement of the PRG of the SVNR. It is also the best means to protect the lives of the US troops and to solve the problem of captured US armymen.

So long as the Nixon administration is bent on prolonging and expanding the war, the South Viet Nam people and armed forces, complying with the supreme wishes of great President Ho Chi Minh, will continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with their brothers and sisters in the North, remain united with the fraternal Lao and Khmer peoples and armed forces, and persistently carry on and step up their holy resistance against US aggression, for national salvation till total victory, to liberate the South, defend the North and advance to peaceful national reunification, thereby contributing to safeguarding the peace, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the fraternal Indochinese countries.

in November

PLAF Substantial Gains

IN November, the US aggressors made thousands of B-52 sorties on various parts of South Viet Nam. They futilely rained tens of thousands of tons of bombs and shells whose destructive power was reportedly equal to that of the 2 atomic bombs dropped on Japan at the end of World War Two.

In Tri Thien provinces the local army and guerillas constantly hung on to the enemy rear, and wiped out an air-borne company, two platoons of commandos and a unit of US scouts on Hill 360, in Khe Moi, along Bo river, and the area north of O Lau river belonging to Huong Tra and Phong Dien mountain regions (on November 4, 5 and 13). In Huong Tra alone, between November 4 and 16, 150 US and puppet casualties were listed (a company and a platoon of scouts of the 101st US Airborne Division).

In the Mekong Delta, the puppet main forces mustered dozens of battalions of infantry, marines and commandos in protracted attacks on An Bien area (Rach Gia province), Bay Nui area (Chau Doc province), and the southern and western parts of Ca Mau province. They also took advantage of the floods to build floating base and their war vessels and combat launches constantly searched and assailed the canal areas in an attempt to destroy the guerilla bases, concentrate the population and forestall the blows of the People's Liberation Armed Forces.

The Rach Gia, Ca Mau, Soc Trang and Kien Tuong provinces' army and people repeatedly and highly successfully struck at the enemy. Many clusters of puppet regular army and commando units, floating bases of the puppet navy on Xeo Ro, and An Bien (Rach Gia) canals, Song Doc and Cai Nuoc districts (Ca Mau), Nha Lau canal (Soc Trang) and Kien Tuong provincial town were raided. Nearly 1,000 enemy troops were killed or wounded. 20 war vessels, combat launches and motorboats destroyed or sunk. Battalions of Regiments 32 and 33 (puppet Division 21) were heavily battered, The operational headquarters and artillery field of Regiment 32 alone lost more than 100 men knocked out, 4 guns, 2 ammunition storehouses and the radio equipment quarters destroyed.

Thus, in the past month it was on the battlefields, where the enemy fielded considerable forces in furious actions, that they suffered most serious casualties.

Also in November, the US and puppets utilized heavy rains and floods to throw troops into "pacification" operations, herd the people and loot their property.

The army and people in the delta region of Central Trung Bo and Nam Bo successfully faced overwhelming odds. Those of Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, Binh Dinh and Khanh Hoa exacted a toll of thousands of US-puppet troops. The Que Son, Thang Binh, Tam Ky and Tien Phuoc districts (Quang Nam) regional army and guerillas wiped out nearly 300 enemy soldiers. Especially in the Hoai Nhon (Binh Dinh) key "pacification", area the guerillas also knocked out 117 adverse men (including 32 Americans, 14 cruel puppet agents) and a puppet scout platoon.

The patriotic forces also cut off the traffic, destroyed bridges on Highways 1 and 19, wrecked and overturned many enemy military trains and convoys. The ambush of the enemy trains in Hoi Mit (Thua Thien) cost the enemy 100 GI casualties.

The East Nam Bo army and people coordinated shellings of enemy bases and posts with attacks on clusters of enemy positions in Ba Den mountain and Trang Lon areas, wiping out nearly 300 troops and helped the local people and guerillas do away with many enemy coercive forces. In Tay Ninh as well as in Ba Ria, Long Khanh, the US troops and Australian and Thai mercenaries also lost more than 110 men in Hung Nghia area (north of Highway 13), the northeastern Long Thanh district capital and Xuan Loc district. The Bien Hoa airbase and US officers' Club in Saigon were also devastatingly raided by the PLAF artillery and the city self-defence armed forces.

In spite of tremendous difficulties caused by natural calamities and enemy actions, the South Viet Nam people and armed forces maintained the offensive and continued to wreak widespread and disastrous destruction on the enemy man-power and materials.

Above:

Ha Tien guerrillas in ambush

Production in the liberated areas incessantly develops

Suspension of military attacks

THE Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam on December 1st issued a statement on the suspension of military attacks on the occasion of Christmas, New Year's Day, and the Lunar New Year Festival.

In the statement, the PRG specified that this decision was taken according to the policy of leniency, to the respect for the customs and habits of our people and those of other countries, to the deep concern for the legitimate feelings and aspirations of our people, of the American and other peoples in the world and of the US-puppets and satellite troops. All military attacks will be suspended in three days on the occasion of Christmas, from zero hour on December 24, 1970 to zero hour on December 27, 1970; in three days on the occasion of the New Year's Day from zero hour on December 31, 1970 to zero hour on January 3, 1971 and in four days on the occasion of the Tan Hoi Lunar New Year Festival, from zero hour on January 26, 1971 to zero hour on January 30, 1971.

The time-table was indicated in Indochina time, i.e. 1:00 hour of delay on Saigon time.

The Command of the SLN People's Liberation Armed Forces the same day ordered all the PLAF regular and regional forces, and guerillas throughout South Viet Nam to suspend their military attacks, in implementation of this Government's decision.

The order said that during the aforesaid halts of military attacks, US and satellite armymen and armymen, police and personnel of the Saigon administration are authorized to move freely on condition that they should go separately, not in groups or units, without weapons and spying means.

The PLAF Command added that all the enemy military activities under whatever forms, included reconnaissance planes, toxic chemical sprays, will be considered violations of the truces and these acts will be duly punished.

The PLAF Command called on all the People's Liberation Armed Forces to abide by its order and actively assist and protect the people during their New Year festival and ceremonies, and to stand ready to resolutely punish any act of violation and sabotage by US, puppet and satellite troops.

In our liberated zone

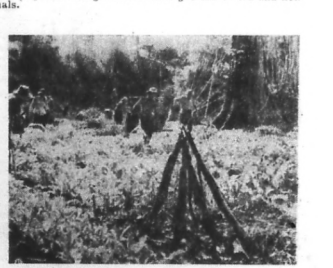
PEASANTS IN MANY PROVINCES BOOST RICE AND OTHER CROP PRODUCTION

KEEPING pace with the liberation armed forces on various battlefields, and putting into effect the slogans: "Determinedly defeat the US aggressors on the ricefields," "Turn no man's land around the enemy posts into green fields of rice, maize, potatoe and cassava," peasants in many provinces of South Viet Nam have, despite all difficulties caused by enemy sabotage and natural calamities, increased the output and cultivated area, and are harvesting a bumper crop.

The Tra Vinh people put under summer rice 3,700 hectares more than last year. Peasants in Thanh Binh district (Kien Phong province) cleared 9,000 hectares of land. In Kien Tuong province, more than 5,000 hectares were grown with summer rice and in Ben Tre over 8,000 hectares with double-crop rice. My Tho enlarged the cropland area by 18% compared with last year.

As for rice production, the per-hectare output averaged from 4 to 6 tons in many provinces. In some localities such as Kien Tuong province, the yield was between 5 and 8 tons per hectare.

Along with more crops and wider cultivated area, peasants in many provinces also replanted and planted many more fruit-trees and many more vegetables such as Ben Tre which is credited with the growing of 200,000 coconut-trees, orange and mandarine-trees, 2,700 hectares of vegetables and 40 hectares of sugar canes. The Ben Tre, My Tho and Tra Vinh locals dug and dredged more than 380 km of old and new canals.



My fellow girl villager

MY village lies at the foot of the Truong Son Range. Its inhabitants earn their living making mortars, slabstones, tables, etc..., out of stone from Non Nuoc, a good veined stone well known throughout Central Viet Nam. So did my parents, and poor though as they were, they managed to send me to school at Da Nang.

After secondary school, aside from a few who went to the officers' school or, by means of bribery, to a high school, the rest, myself included, did not know where to go to escape the draft.

Once evening, as I was working as a hand at a carpenter's, a girl dropped on me, hair plaited into a long pigtail hanging on her back, in a flowing sky-blue *ao dai* and close-fitting trousers. Seing that I was staring at her, she gently put her plastic basket on a chair and said:

"Tan, you don't recognize me, do you?"

I was somewhat at a loss and exclaimed moments later:

"Ah, Su! How did you come to know I'm here?"

"People on the road over there told me."

Meeting an old friend again after six or seven years away from my native place filled me with joy and some regret for things irreparably lost. The Yanks and their hirelings had irrupted into our village and made terrible havoc. My father and mother already of age had been forcibly taken to a "strategic hamlet."

... When I inquired about Non Nuoc pagoda, Su heaved a sigh:

"They too were bombed!"

She gazed at me in silence. My heart was wrung. I saw again with my mind's eye the five pretty pagodas, each at the foot of a rocky hill. When children, Su, myself and several of our friends used to fasten the buffaloes we had to look after to old, shady trees nearby and, together, played at marbles, tipcat or soldiers. Whenever I claimed the role of a liberation troops' commander, she would sulk, saying: "You boy always want to be the boss. Then play alone." And so I had to yield. The other boys painted bushy beards on their faces up to their temples and put on sham noses to look like GIs and strutted into grottos. When tired, we all, vying with each other, ran for some "milk" dripping from stalactites. There, standing upright, one after another we held our mouths open to get the drops of sweet liquid from the "breast" of a woman-shaped rock.

"How have you been getting on?" she asked.

"Rather dully, Su."

"Why didn't you accept a job from our people?"

"Who trusts a man like me?"

After a moment's silence she blinked her bright, intelligent eyes:

"I do."

Completely abashed, I looked Su from head to feet.

In 1954 when peace returned Su was a shy little fair-haired girl. One day, she came to my house, bare-footed and wearing faded trousers of home-made material, with tears on both knees. Not daring to get in, she peeped in through the door.

"Tan," she said, "daddy will go north tomorrow (1). He wants your father round for a cup of tea."

Less than two months later, Diem's men arrested her mother and threw her in prison. Su had to leave for Da Nang and hire herself there as a servant to support her younger sister. Once freed, her mother became a cripple. The girl returned to her native village to take care of both. A girl like Su must not be a "bad one." Having apparently read my inner thoughts, she looked round, then took out of a water-melon in her baskets a hand-grenade of the liberation troops and showed it to me...

Since then Su often came back. On one of these occasions she introduced me to two young men.

"These are Tho and Thanh. Former schoolboys, now they're electricians and members of our city commando unit."

Su showed us how to distribute leaflets, cut telephone wires and also make land-mines and hand-grenades. Once, as the police were rounding up suspects in the streets, we ran short of explosive. She wanted to go and fetch some herself. I held her

back and came forward for the job. Chuckling, she said:

"Don't you worry, I'm used to it."

As she walked out, gun reports became more distinct. I pinched Tho's shoulder. He turned round, saying with a knowing look:

"You fear for our commander's life, don't you?"

"Who doesn't? After all she's only a young girl."

"Don't you worry," Tho went on reassuringly. "God in person could not catch her, let alone the one-eyed police of the US-puppets."

"You should have seen her carrying," he added, "'C4' explosive. Several satchels, hidden in a big bundle of firewood, went safely through ten check-points, and mind you, in each place the ruffians did look at the sticks. When I asked Su how she had managed it, she just smiled."

"It runs in her family," Thanh cut in. "At ten years of age, with her friends from a pioneer group, she stole into enemy garrisons to get US-made rifles. At sixteen, she belonged to the Phan Hanh Son suicide squad. And who doesn't know about the ambush she laid at An Hai crossroad? When the mine exploded and the police fanned out all over the place and arrested people en masse, my heart beat wildly, my hands trembled. Holding a grenade at the ready, Su showed me into a toilet, left me there and disappeared into a house that had just been searched by the police. I thought she had fallen into a trap. But when the gun reports came to an end, she opened the door of the closet to let me out, a fragrant, half-peeled mango in her hand. To my question, 'How did you escape?' she only smiled."

"An old head on young shoulders," Thanh commented.

IN preparation for the second phase of the 1968 Tet general offensives at Da Nang, we were entrusted with distributing leaflets, sticking posters and striking in the direction of the Nam Tho crossroad. In the glare of enemy searchlights, I followed with anxiety the little silhouette of Su making her way into a garrison, now creeping through barbed wire, now climbing fences, now crawling past watch-towers. All of a sudden, mine and grenade explosions tore the air, followed by sustained rounds of machineguns and submachineguns. The adversary also fired up flares and it seemed that the whole area was flooded with daylight. "Will she manage to get off safe and sound?" I said to myself in anguish.

The next day I woke up very early in the morning. People in huge numbers took to the streets, gazing with ostensible elation at the NFL flag atop the town's garrison. Someone said: "A whole section mowed down! Who dares climb up there to take off the flag? Choppers only can do."

Looking for Su, I found her busy knitting at her house. Raising her intelligent eyes, she said:

"You were anxious about me, weren't you?"

A bit embarrassed, I nodded my head:

"You're very clever indeed!"

She blushed, and, blinking her eyes, said:

"Without the people's protection, without your sharing the enemy's fire, I would not have been able to go back safely to base, my dear!"

I met Su again long after the coup at the Nam Tho crossroad.

"Where have you been?" said I reproachfully.

"I've been busy watching a new target," she answered.

Then she sat down next to me, visibly moved. I noticed tears in her eyes.

"Yesterday," she went on, "as I was carrying water-melons to the Cau market place, I ran into an old woman with a white mourning band on her head. When I asked her, 'Who are you mourning for, mother?' she said: 'My son was killed by that major who questioned him. Why does heaven spare that wicked thug? So long as he's alive, nobody can live in peace!' I helped her into her house and comforted her:

'We will avenge you, mother.'

'My little girl, that vicious thug drives his car himself, changes sleeping places four or five times a night'."

Su looked me in the face, saying:

"We have been instructed by our superiors to get rid of that brute. What do you think about the order?"

I was still hesitating, when Su answered her own question:

"Nguyen Van Troi dared volunteer to try to assassinate McNamara. Why should we hesitate to attempt to liquidate that fellow?"

She and I spent the whole night drawing up a detailed plan and with blood from our fingers wrote a pledge to carry it out.

In the small hours of the next day, Su dressed like a student born of an affluent family. She paced up and down Hung Vuong Boulevard, lost in the crowd. As a soldier pushed the door to get off a blue limousine with the marking Z.193, she quickly slipped into it, planted there a hand-grenade, and strolled off.

At just 7.15 a.m. when I was at Hung Vuong Boulevard, I heard two explosions. People rushed to the place in large numbers. Children shouted: "Fine! That brute of a major has been killed!"

Running home to bring Su the good tidings, I found her preparing a meal in the kitchen. The glowing fire made her face still rosier than usual. She just gazed at me smiling.

Some time later, Su was sent away to set up a new commando unit. I had thus to part with my commander, my valiant, lovely fellow girl villager. I felt lonely. Is it out of love or a much deeper but more disinterested feeling? Anyway, she has, by the example she set, prompted me to fight harder to deserve her confidence. I will bend all my young energies to the current struggle in fulfilment of the task left behind by her.

HA DUONG

(1) *In implementation of the Geneva Agreements, resistance members were regrouped North of the 17e parallel.*

CAMBODIA:

7,000 enemy casualties in Nov. 1970

ACCORDING to still incomplete figures, in November 1970 the Cambodian National Liberation Armed Forces put out of action more than 7,000 enemy troops, including 10 battalions wiped out or badly mauled, *AKI* reported.

At the start of this year's dry season, to get out of their predicament and make good their failure in the last rainy season, the Lon Nol puppet troops in coordination with the Saigon puppet troops and US air support, mounted many raids on Snoul (Kratie), Memot (Kompong Cham), Ratanakiri (North-East of Cambodia), Kampot and Takeo (South of Cambodia). But their attacks were beaten off by the Cambodian patriotic forces which inflicted heavy losses on them. In Ratanakiri province alone, the operation conducted by 9 Saigon puppet battalions from November 16 to 20 ended in a flop.

In the flush of their successes, the Cambodian National Liberation Army in November 1970 fruitfully assaulted the enemy units in Kompong Champ, Kirirom (Kompong Speu province) and several adverse positions on Highway 4, in Battambang, Siem Reap and many other places. In Kompong Cham, in five days ended November 12, the Cambodian patriotic forces knocked out 1,200 men. In Kirirom area and on Highway 4, between November 20 and 25, 6 enemy battalions were put out of action.

These initial achievements of the dry season showed the quick and powerful growth of the Cambodian National Liberation Armed Forces. The Cambodian army and people who have taken the initiative to attack the enemy will together with the South Vietnamese and Lao peoples, certainly baffle the adventurous military schemes and acts of the US imperialists in their aggression against the Indochinese countries.

LAOS:

1559th U.S. plane downed

EARLY in this year's dry season, the Lao army and people not only foiled enemy inroads on the liberated areas but also successively assailed the enemy in all parts, putting out of action thousands of enemy troops, and forcing them out a number of important strategic positions, according to first reports by *KPL*.

From October 2 to November 12, the army and people in Savannakhet province completely fought off the assaults by 10 battalions of puppet "special forces" in the "Cang Nha Kiet" campaign. More than 350 adverse troops were wiped out, two aircraft brought down and a large quantity of weapons and military equipment captured or destroyed. On November 24, the 1559th enemy plane was knocked down with 5 US aggressors on board.

From November 10 to 18, the Xieng Khoang province army and people thwarted enemy encroachments upon the liberated areas and put out of action 200 troops and shot down four planes. On November 24 and 25 alone, 23 enemy positions throughout the country were raided at the same time, and hundreds of enemy troops put out of action and a number of important adverse strategic positions had to be evacuated.

Those initial successes portend more and greater achievements for the rest of the dry season.

• On Nov. 29, speaking in Moscow on the 50th founding anniversary of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic, Mr Leonid Brezhnev, Secretary General of the Communist Party of the USSR said: "The way to stop the war in Viet Nam is clear, that is an end to US military intervention, withdrawal of the invading troops and leaving the Vietnamese people to settle their own affairs themselves. This is the substance of the proposal of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam..."

• The same day, in a welcome meeting for the Party and Government delegation of Rumania visiting the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr Todor Jivkov, Secretary General of the Communist Party of Bulgaria and Chairman of the PRB Council of Ministers, and Mr Ceaucesco, Secretary General of the Communist Party of Rumania and Chairman of the SRR Council of Ministers, declared their support for the position of the PRG of the SVNR at the Paris Conference and affirmed their full backing for the Indochinese peoples' resistance against American aggression.

• On Nov. 26, in a ceremony in Peking, the Chinese Red Cross Society handed to SVNR Ambassador to Peking Nguyen Van Quang 5 million *yuan* worth of goods meant for the population of flood-hit areas in South Viet Nam.

IN BRIEF ★ IN BRIEF ★ IN BRIEF

• On Nov. 26 the United Socialist Party of Sweden earmarked 20,000 *kronor* from its international-solidarity fund to help the PRG of the SVNR. On this occasion, Mr Frans Nilssop, member of the USP Standing Committee, said: "With our contribution, we want once again to show our Party's support for the effort to end the war in Viet Nam and Indochina on the Indochinese peoples' terms."

• On Nov. 23, about 200 Swedes irrupted into the US Commercial Centre in Stockholm. They distributed leaflets saying their action was directed against the crimes committed by the American war and their hirelings against the South Viet Nam flood-stricken people and US bombings in North Viet Nam.

• On Nov. 24 evening, over 600 people – most of them students demonstrated in Helsinki against US crimes against flood victims in South Viet Nam and the recent bombing of the DRVN territory. They marched through the city's streets, shouted anti-American slogans and burnt a US flag.

• The Central Council of Rumanian Trade-Unions and the All-African Trade-Unions sent messages to the South Viet Nam Liberation Trade Union Federation, confabling with the flood-stricken population and scoring US-puppet atrocities on this occasion. A similar message was sent by the Albanian Women's Association to its counterpart in the liberated zone of South Viet Nam.

• At the invitation of the UAR Socialist Youth Federation, a delegation of South Viet Nam PLAF heroes and valiant fighters paid a friendship visit to the United Arab Republic from the 21st to the 27th of November. In a joint declaration, the two organizations spelled out support for each other in their struggle against imperialism headed by the USA, for their respective countries' independence and peace.

• At the invitation of the World Church Dignitaries' Council, on Nov. 16 Madame Nguyen Thi Chon, member of the PRG Delegation to the Paris Conference paid a visit to the Council at its office in Geneva. Mr. Eugene C. Blake, the Council's Secretary General, and Mr Alan A. Brash, Director of its Aid Department, expressed deep concern over the prolongation of the Viet Nam war by the USA, and the wish of the WCDC to establish long-range cooperation with the PRG to help the South Vietnamese people achieve peace at an early date.

RESOLUTELY SUPPORT THE GUINEAN STRUGGLE AGAINST AGGRESSION

THE valiant people and army of the Guinean Republic have meted out severe punishment to the mercenary troops of the Portuguese colonialists who attacked Conakry. Despite the heavy blows received (200 mercenaries killed or captured,) the aggressors have not yet given up their wicked schemes. As revealed by UPI *on November 25, "foreign warships were still cruising off the Guinean territorial waters. On November 27 and 28, Portuguese troops launched another assault on the border area north of Koundar and again they suffered losses: 150 raiders were wiped out and the others fled in disorder. The situation in Guinea has thus become ever more strained. Responding to the appeal of President Ahmed Sékou Touré and the Guinean Democratic Party, the entire Guinean people are holding firm their guns and are ready to fight for the defence of their independence and freedom.*

The brazen aggressive schemes and acts of the colonialist invaders against young independent countries in Africa are no novelty. As everybody knows, Africa which is very rich in natural resources has been so far a site of old and new colonialists' contest for profits. Africa is also a vital position in US global strategy. Many member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization have marked this continent as an important target in their neo-colonialist programme.

To realize this aggressive design in Africa, the US imperialists – the extremely machiavellian imperialist ring-leader – engage in double-dealing. On the one hand, they claim that the US will "not interfere in the African countries' internal affairs" and "let them settle their own affairs by themselves." But on the other, disguised under the signboards "economic aid" and "peace corps," they have been trying to apply political pressure and sending in spies to join hands with internal reactionaries, sow inner dissensions, stage provocations and organize subversion. The very brazen US intervention in Congo (K) in 1960, the reactionary military putsch in Ghana in 1966, and series of attempted assassination and coups d'etat in other African countries have been eloquent evidence of the US imperialists' wicked ambitions.

As one of the standard-bearers in the battle against the imperialists and colonialists in Africa, the Guinean Republic is not immune from the envy and views of the US imperialists and their followers. The latter resent the Guinean people's achievements in the defence and consolidation of their national independence, and in the building of their country. Alarmed at the shining examples of the Guinean people's anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist spirit, and firm support for the Vietnamese people's war of resistance against the US aggressors and for national salvation, they have been resorting to all manoeuvres to undermine Guinea's independence. They have mounted many provocations and subversive actions in Guinea and even attempted to assassinate President Sékou Touré. The recent raids on Guinea by the Portuguese colonialists were obviously a follow-up move with the same purpose.

But the Guinean people who are determined to defend their independence and freedom are not alone in their struggle. Public feeling has been running high against the imperialists and solidarity with the Guinean people has been unmistakably voiced. The Premier of Southern Yemen declared that "the onslaughts constituted a serious escalation of the imperialist forces headed by the US." The Sudanese Foreign Minister said: "It is precisely the imperialists, first of all the US, who are the enemy number one of the African liberation movement." Many other countries in the world have also expressed support for the Guinean people, sent arms, money and medicines as aid and promised to dispatch volunteers to fight by their side. Foreign Ministers of 41 member countries of the Organization of African Unity will hold an extraordinary meeting at Lagos on December 9, and the Defence Committee of this organization composed of Chiefs of Staff of all the OAU member countries will meet at the same time to discuss measures to cope with this "savage aggression" against Guinea.

AS stressed in the November 24 statement of the Foreign Ministry of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the South Vietnamese people "are extremely indignant at, and strongly condemn, the criminal aggressive actions of the Portuguese colonialist pirates, firmly insist that they stop all attempts to invade the Guinean Republic.

The South Vietnamese people and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam wholeheartedly associate themselves with the legitimate effort of the Guinean people under the leadership of President Sékou Touré to defend their sacred national rights."

The South Vietnamese people warmly hail the Guinean army and people's highly vigilant and valiant fighting spirit and their remarkable success in foiling the colonialists' aggressive scheme, which achievement will inspire the drive for independence and national liberation of other peoples.

LONG LIVE THE NFL, THE ORGANIZER AND LEADER OF ALL VICTORIES OF THE SVN PEOPLE!

NFL flags displayed by our friends in the world and the flags of the US aggressors lowered and burned by the anti-war demonstrators in many countries.

South Viet Nam in Struggle
to become NFL mouthpiece

As an organ of the NFL Information Commission, **SOUTH VIET NAM IN STRUGGLE** has the honour to inform its readers that by a decision of the NFL CC it will become as from December 20, 1970 the official mouthpiece of the NFL (Foreign Section) directly placed under its Central Committee.

The decision was taken by the Presidium after hearing the report of our Editor-in-Chief on the magazine's activity and impact abroad. **SOUTH VIET NAM IN STRUGGLE** is read in 126 countries in the world (17 in Asia, 40 in Africa, 28 in America, 12 in the Mid-East, 27 in Europe and 2 in Oceania).

Stockholm Conference's Declaration on Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia

THE Stockholm World Conference on Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia ended on November 30, *GPA* correspondent reported.

The Conference unanimously adopted many documents including a declaration on Indochina, an appeal on humanity and a statement on recent US bombardments on the DRVN territory.

After mentioning the recent American air raids on the populated areas of the DRVN, the declaration said:

"These extremely serious acts of war were a flagrant violation of the sovereignty and security of the DRVN, formed part of the US government's plan to intensify and extend the war of aggression in Indochina and constituted an arrogant challenge to world public opinion. Compounded by other crimes committed in different parts of the Indochinese peninsula, they exposed the duplicity of the so-called peace proposals of the President of the USA, in particular his latest initiative in five points. Nixon speaks of peace but he intensifies the war against the peoples of Indochina who are fighting with unshakable determination and in complete solidarity."

The declaration, after denouncing the war crimes committed by US and satellite and puppet troops in South Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia, continued:

"The International Conference on Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia is the interpreter of the feelings of all men and women who cherish peace and justice in the world, when it denounces and condemns the US war of aggression in Indochina and its continuous aggravation. The US government will have to bear the full responsibility for the consequences which result from its grave acts of war carried out against the Indochinese peoples, and in particular for their effects on the work of the Paris Conference.

The Conference demands the ending, once and for all, of all acts of war against the DRVN. The US army has no right to violate, for any period of time and in any way, the smallest fraction of the territory of this sovereign state. The United States must respond seriously to the peace initiative of the SVNR PRG advanced in a spirit of obvious goodwill in the 8-point proposals of September 17, 1970, withdraw completely and unconditionally from South Viet Nam before June 30, 1971, its troops and those of the other countries of the American camp and stop all support for the warmongering Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique in order to open the door to the formation of a coalition government which favours peace, independence, neutrality and democracy.

The Conference launches a powerful appeal to world public opinion to start broad and powerful mass actions in all countries against the double-dealing of the US government and force it to put an immediate end to this war of aggression in Indochina."

Big demonstration in Paris in support of the Indochinese peoples

ON November 26, 1970, 50,000 French people in Paris and its suburbs took the streets against the new adventurous war acts of the Nixon administration, and for an end to the US aggressive war in Indochina, and unconditional withdrawal of all American troops from Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos.

After the mammoth May 10 Vincennes meeting this was another large-scale action staged by Frenchmen and Frenchwomen in response to the appeal of 42 organizations including many political parties, trade-unions, youth, women and students organizations and others, such as the French Communist Party, the Convention of Republican Institutions, the United Socialist Party, the French General Confederation of Labour, the French Democratic Confederation of Labour, the French Communist Youth Movement, the Union of French Women, the French Peace Movement, the *Témoignage Chrétien*, the Christian Conference for Peace...

The marchers chanted these slogans: "Nixon, the murderer," "US Go Home," "Withdraw all US troops from Viet Nam and Indochina," "Peace and Independence for the Indochinese Countries..." Large crowds of people standing on the pavements and at their windows along the road, clapped their hands and joined the marchers in shouting protest slogans.

Also taking part in the demonstration were delegations of other countries including many American residents in Paris.

Also on November 26, over 40 delegations from various organizations, districts and factories in Lyon called at the US Consulate there and handed in petitions against the new US bombings of North Viet Nam. The French Socialist Party also published a communique condemning the US raids.

On November 27, *L'Humanité* carried an article making clear that "the French people will keep up their drive till the Indochinese people succeed in forcing the US respect for their independence and peace."

IOJ's Support

AT a meeting in June 1970, the Presidium of the Executive Committee of the International Organization of Journalists held in Potsdam decided to observe December 20 this year as a great day of international solidarity with the South Vietnamese people. On this occasion Mr Jiri Kubka, Secretary-General of IOJ granted an interview to the *Democratic Journalist* on the activities of this international body.

Answering the question on the IOJ's assistance to Viet Nam, he said the body's primary attention was focused on the journalists engaged in an overt struggle against the invaders of their native land, against usurpers and corrupt politicians in foreign imperialist forces' pay.

"The main object of our solidarity activities," he said, "are unquestionably the Vietnamese journalists whose action has been enjoying the permanent, systematic and total support of all our unions, all the member groups and friends of our international organization. Our support to the Vietnamese journalists' movement even in the material field is part of our practical policy of active assistance only limited by our possibilities."

The Secretary General made known that the "Paper for the truth on Viet Nam" campaign launched by the 6th Congress had won a notable success. Many member unions are to start national drives in favour of Viet Nam on the occasion of the IOJ 7th Congress to be held in Havana.

"I think however," Mr Jiri Kubka concluded, "one should not show any appreciation of this aspect of our activities, because for us it is a matter of course and the most tremendous efforts made by others cannot compare in any degree with the work full of abnegation which the Vietnamese journalists have been doing every day for their Fatherland, work which commands our deep respect."

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